

have already made and to use our resources wisely to reduce black carbon emissions at home and abroad.

I thank the managers of the bill for their interest in working with us on this amendment.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator WARNER of Virginia be added as a cosponsor on the civil rights oral history project amendment, amendment No. 2460, which is before this body.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I believe the ranking member will concur with this. I ask unanimous consent that the pending amendment be set aside.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 2460, AS MODIFIED

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I send to the desk a modification of the amendment on the Smithsonian Civil Rights History Project, amendment No. 2460. What this amendment does is simply on line 2 change the word "shall" to "may."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment is so modified.

The amendment, as modified, is as follows:

(Purpose: To support the participation of the Smithsonian Institution in activities under the Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009)

On page 219, line 5, before "and including" insert the following: "of which \$250,000 may be made available to carry out activities under the Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009 (20 U.S.C. 80s et seq.), to remain available until expended;"

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 12 noon Tuesday, September 22, the Senate proceed to vote in relation to amendment No. 2460, as modified, with no amendment in order to the amendment prior to the vote, with the time until 12 noon equally divided and controlled between Senators FEINSTEIN and ALEXANDER or their designees.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, Jones Academy was founded over 100 years

ago, in 1891, on the site of an earlier school operated by the Choctaw Nation. Its sister institution was the Wheelock Academy for Girls, founded earlier than Jones and providing an academic curriculum for girls. Both programs were federally funded through the Office of Indian Affairs—later renamed the Bureau of Indian Affairs—with many private and tribal donations.

Until 1950, the situation worked. While the Bureau of Indian Affairs technically ran the school, the relative isolation of the school and the constant presence of a large Indian Tribe meant that the children at Jones Academy received an education adequate for their academic and personal needs. In 1952, the Federal Government instituted the termination policy. In 1953, the BIA approached the Public School District of Hartshorne, OK. They offered to close the academic programs for Jones Academy and totally close Wheelock Academy. The children were to be bused to Hartshorne School District, in exchange for local public education of these children. The school district agreed, provided they continued to receive Johnson-O'Malley payments as well as impact aid payments for Indian students. Over tribal objections, this arrangement was instituted and Jones Academy became a dormitory-only program. It has remained such for 45 years.

An agreement between the Choctaw Nation and the Hartshorne School District was reached in 2003 to allow children in the lowest grades, 1-6, to attend classes on campus, at Jones Academy, thus receiving better support and avoiding lengthy busing. As part of this agreement, and to assist the children through better programs, the Choctaw Nation has constructed and equipped state-of-the-art facilities, and it did so without any Federal assistance. In recent years, the programs at Jones Academy School site have won numerous awards for being one of Oklahoma's highest achieving schools.

However, the Choctaw Nation is not able to implement control over the Jones Academy program or exercise self determination as other tribes do. They wish to do so, as a normal extension of Jones' recent success and the Choctaw Nation's desire to improve continuously. This can only be done if the tribe is allowed to actually operate Jones Academy academic program under its own policies and programs, reflecting its push for excellence.

Because of a moratorium enacted in 1995, which prevents any tribal school from receiving Federal academic program support for any program not operated at that school, the Jones Academy is prevented from reestablishing their programs and entering the Federal grant schools system. This moratorium was originally enacted as a "temporary" halt to changes to allow the BIA time to develop and institute a new construction and facilities system. However, the moratorium has been continued as a provision of the law.

My Oklahoma colleague in the House, Mr. BOREN, has been working on this issue, and the House committee report accompanying the proposed fiscal year 2010 Interior appropriations bill contains language to address the issue in the form of a BIA study. I support the inclusion of this language and support the prompt completion of the study. I support the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and Chief Pyle on this issue.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of the 16th annual National Public Lands Day, which will be celebrated on Saturday, September 26. I am pleased to acknowledge the efforts of volunteers across our Nation who will come together to improve and restore one of America's most valuable assets, our public lands.

National Public Lands Day started in 1994 with 700 volunteers working in just a few locations. This year, over 130,000 volunteers will come together to work at more than 2,000 locations across all 50 States. These people come from all walks of life, holding a shared interest in protecting our public lands for the enjoyment of future generations.

Our Nation has a grand tradition of conservation. When Yellowstone National Park was established in 1872, it was the world's first national park. The idea of a national park was an American invention of historic proportions that led the way for global conservation efforts. President Teddy Roosevelt, one of our earliest and most energetic conservationists, dedicated 194 million acres of national parks and national preserves over the course of his Presidency. America has continued to build on this tradition with endeavors such as the operation of the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s and 1940s, passage of the Wilderness Act in 1964, establishment of Earth Day in 1970, enactment of the National Wildlife Refuge Improvement Act in 1997, and the signing into law of this year's Omnibus Public Land Management Act, to name just a few examples. National Public Lands Day provides an annual opportunity for the American public to devote a day to conservation and to give back to the public lands that give so much to us.

Public lands make up over one-third of our country and are places of continuous discovery, where we go to find ourselves, to uncover our history, and to explore for new resources. Our public lands provide wide open spaces, deep